

## City of Chicago



R2014-542

## Office of the City Clerk

## **Document Tracking Sheet**

**Meeting Date:** 7/30/2014

Sponsor(s): Fioretti (2)

Type: Resolution

Title: Recognition extended to Joe Segal for contributions to jazz

music

**Committee(s) Assignment:** 

## **SALUTE TO JOE SEGAL**

WHEREAS, Joe Segal, an outstanding citizen and impresario of one of this city's most iconic music venues, has provided a platform for a pantheon of the finest and most extraordinary jazz musicians of this city, the nation and the world; and

WHEREAS, Joe Segal showed an early affinity for music, often attending big band performances at the Earl Theater in his native Philadelphia. While stationed at Chanute Air Force base in Champaign, Illinois during his military service, he would use his leave time to travel to be a part of the remarkable jazz music scene Chicago had to offer; and

WHEREAS, After his discharge from the service, Segal took advantage of the GI Bill and moved to Chicago to attend Roosevelt University. The multi-racial exposure he had there led to his meeting jazz star greats Dizzy Gillespie and Miles Davis; and

WHEREAS, Joe Segal joined the Roosevelt University jazz club where, from 1947 to 1957, he produced his Jazz Showcase. It was there he presented such remarkable musicians as Charlie Parker and Lester Young; and

WHEREAS, Segal first opened his Jazz Showcase Club in 1970 on Rush Street in this city's night club district. He moved the venue to the Blackstone Hotel in 1982. In June of 2008, Jazz Showcase settled at its current location at Dearborn Station on South Plymouth Court; and

WHEREAS, Joe Segal has been recognized on numerous occasions for his noteworthy achievements. He was awarded the 2015 National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Masters Fellowship and was named 2010 Jazz Hero by the Jazz Journalists Association. In 2013, Segal received an honorary doctorate from his alma mater, Roosevelt University; and

WHEREAS, The Honorable Robert W. Fioretti, Alderman of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward, has introduced an ordinance to name a portion of South Plymouth Court that borders the Jazz Showcase Club as "Honorary Joe Segal Way"; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED That we, the Mayor and members of the City of Chicago City Council, gathered together on this thirtieth day of July, 2014, do hereby salute Joe Segal for his lifetime achievement of presenting this city with the finest in jazz music and extend our very best wishes for continued health, happiness and success in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a suitable copy of this resolution be prepared and presented to Joe Segal.

ORERT W. FIOR

Alderman - 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward